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2. (Amended) A catalyst as defined in claim 1 wherein said support element is selected from the group consisting of alumina and zeolite.

Claims 4 and 5 have been amended to read as follows

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4. (Amended twice) A catalyst as defined in claim 3 wherein said crystallite characteristic dimension in the range of between 10 and 1000 Å average size and a distribution on said support element of no more than 0.2 m² of exposed nickel / m² of said support surface.

5. (Amended twice) A catalyst as defined in claim 3 wherein said characteristic dimension is in the range of between 150 Å and 250 Å and a distribution on said support element of no more than 0.16 of said m² of exposed nickel / m² of said support surface.

Claims 9 through 23 inclusive have been amended to read as follows

9. (Amended twice) A catalyst as defined in claim 8 wherein said characteristic dimension is in the range of between 5 Å and 100 Å and a distribution on said support element of no more than 0.15 m² nickel exposed / m² of said support surface.

10. (Amended twice) A catalyst as defined in claim 8 wherein said characteristic dimension is in the range of between 10 Å and 70 Å of no more than 0.10 m² nickel exposed / m² of said support surface.

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11 (Amended) A catalyst as defined in claim 9 wherein said zeolite is selected from the group consisting of NaY (sodium exchanged Y zeolite) and USY (ultrastabilized Y zeolite).

12. (Amended) A catalyst as defined in claim 10 wherein said zeolite is selected from the group ultrastabilized Y zeolite.

13 (Amended) A catalyst as defined in claim 1 wherein said support element has an average size in the range of between 5 and 200 microns.

14 (Amended) A catalyst as defined in claim 1 wherein said support element has an average size in the range of between 20 and 100 microns

15 (Amended) A catalyst as defined in claim 6 wherein said support element has an average size in the range of between 5 and 200 microns.

16 (Amended) A catalyst as defined in claim 6 wherein said support element has an average size in the range of between 20 and 100 microns.

17 (Amended) A catalyst as defined in claim 7 wherein said support element has an average size is in the range of between 5 and 200 microns.

- 18 (Amended) A catalyst as defined in claim 7 wherein said support element has an average size in the range of between 20 and 100 microns.
- 19 (Amended) A catalyst as defined in claim 11 wherein said support element has an average size in the range of between 5 and 200 microns
- 20 (Amended) A catalyst as defined in claim 11 wherein said support element has an average size in the range of between 20 and 100 microns.
- 21 (Amended) A catalyst as defined in claim 12 wherein said support element has an average size in the range of between 5 and 200 microns.
- 22 (Amended) A catalyst as defined in claim 12 wherein said support element has an average size in the range of between 20 and 100 microns.
23. (Amended twice) A reforming process comprising reforming hydrocarbons in the presence of a catalyst in a reaction zone, said catalyst being Nickel (Ni) catalyst of discrete Ni crystallites formed on a support by a several step incipient wetness process incorporating a plurality of Ni impregnating steps, said crystallites having a maximum dimension [measures in any one direction] in the range of between 5 and 1000 Å and a dispersion on said support of no more than 0.2 square meter of nickel exposed metal/ square meter of said support, said support being selected from the group consisting of alumina and zeolite materials, recycling said catalyst to and from said reaction zone, regenerating between 10 and 100 % of the catalyst being recycled in a regeneration zone to provide a regenerated catalyst and returning said regenerated catalyst to said reaction zone.

New claims 26, 27 and 28 reading as follows have been added

26. A catalyst as defined in claim 6 wherein said Ni crystallites are present in the amount of up to 20 wt%.
27. A catalyst as defined in claim 7 wherein said Ni crystallites are present in the amount of up to 20 wt%
28. A reforming process as defined in claim 25 wherein said Ni crystallites are present in the amount of up to 20 wt%
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In the drawings